UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: July 22, 1963

FROM : Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Baumgardner
1 - Mr. Bland
1 - Mr. Donohue
1 - Mr. Shaw

SUBJECT: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
SECURITY MATTER - COMMUNIST

TOP SECRET

This is a recommendation requesting the Attorney General's authority for the installation of a technical surveillance covering the home telephone of Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as the telephone covering the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, of which King is the President.

You will recall that on 7/16/63 the Attorney General advised Assistant Director Evans that in view of the possible communist influence in the racial situation, he desired that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and Clarence Benjamin Jones, a New York City attorney, who is closely associated with King. The Attorney General indicated he was not concerned with the repercussions if it should ever become known that such surveillances had been put into effect and that he thought it advisable to have as complete coverage as possible.

[redacted]

Pursuant to the Attorney General's request that consideration be given to placing a technical surveillance on King, our Atlanta Office was requested to conduct a survey to ascertain if such coverage is feasible and could be conducted with full security. Atlanta teletype 7/20/63 discloses that technical coverage on King is feasible and can be conducted with full security.

At present there are 58 investigative-type technical surveillances in operation and 6 being installed. The limit is 75.

A separate memorandum requesting Attorney General's authority to place a technical surveillance on Clarence Benjamin Jones has previously been submitted.

Enc.
100-106670
TGS:hns
(9)

JUL 31 1963

TOP SECRET

EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

Memorandum to Mr. Sullivan
RE: MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
100-106670

TOP SECRET

OBSERVATION:

In view of the Attorney General's request that our coverage be as complete as possible, it is felt that we should institute coverage not only on King's residence, but also on his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum for the Attorney General go forward requesting authority to install a technical surveillance on King's residence, as well as his office at the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

JPK WGS WCS OK.

SEE HERO EVANS TO BELMONT 7/25/63, CAPTIONED MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WHICH STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL TRODUSTERED AND DISAPPROVED REQUEST FOR TESUR.

TOP SECRET